THE SPEYSIDE WAY - SELF GUIDED WALKING HOLIDAY

A truly wonderful long distance walk ranging from 65 miles and five walking days to 92 miles and seven walking days. As you make your way south-west from Buckie towards Aviemore you cannot fail to be impressed by the fantastic landscape in this whisky distilling region of North East Scotland.

You start on the rocky shores of the Moray Firth at Buckie, a wee fishing port with about 8,000 inhabitants. From Buckie you aim for Fochabers for your overnight stay, and then continue onto Craigellachie where the Earth Pillars and Telford Bridge are very worthwhile side trips. From here an option is to walk the Dufftown spur and visit the world famous Glenfiddich Distillery for a whisky tour and a wee dram. Continuing to Ballindalloch with another optional spur to Tomintoul which gives magnificent views over the Cairngorm Mountain Range which will not dissapoint. Finally Grantown with its Smokehouse, and Aviemore are reached to complete a wonderful walking holiday through some of the best countryside Scotland has to offer.

Every holiday we offer features hand-picked overnight accommodation in high quality B&B’s, country inns, and guesthouses. Each is unique and offers the highest levels of welcome, atmosphere and outstanding local cuisine. We also include daily door to door baggage transfers, guidebook with detailed maps and pre-departure information pack as well as emergency support, should you need it.

- Visiting the many Distilleries including Glenlivet and Glenfiddich.
- Following the magnificent River Spey through wonderful countryside all the way to Aviemore.
- Enjoying quieter paths and trails in this less frequented walking region of Scotland.
- On the Tomintoul spur relish at the wonder of the Cairngorm Mountain range.
- Admire the glorious woodland at Anagach and try and spot a Capercallie.

WHY CHOOSE A SELF GUIDED WALKING HOLIDAY WITH US?

Macs Adventure is a small, energetic company dedicated to delivering adventure excellence. We are passionate about delivering outstanding walking holidays where every last detail is taken care of. Each holiday we offer is unique, tailor made to meet your requirements. From your first contact with Macs Adventure you will deal with a local specialist who knows the region intimately.

Self guided walking holidays are a wonderful relaxed way to discover the magic of the Speyside Way. Free to travel at your own pace and wander off the beaten track, you will discover the beauty of the landscape, the warmth of the people and the long history of this spectacular land. We will supply you with a guidebook with clear maps and a pre-departure information pack to guide you every step of the way. Your baggage will be collected and moved onto your next accommodation so that you are free to walk each day with just a daypack. In the unlikely event you should require emergency support our office is always more than happy to help with your queries. So, from the moment you decide to visit Scotland and the Speyside Way you can relax and look forward to an unforgettable self-guided walking holiday. We hope that you will choose to travel with Macs Adventure soon.

SUMMARY

Tour: The Speyside Way
Code: WSSSW1—WSSSW5
Type: Self-Guided Walking Holiday
Price: See Website
Single Supplement: See Website
Dates: March—October
Walking Days: 5-7
Nights: 6-8
Start: Buckie
Finish: Aviemore
Distance: 65-92 Miles
Grade: Easy to Moderate

IS IT FOR ME?
Each region in Scotland has its own distinct scenery and Speyside is no different. A quieter corner of Scotland, it is home to many of the countries best whisky distilleries and if you are fond of a wee dram this could be the trip for you.

WHAT’S INCLUDED?

Accommodation: Hand-picked B&B’s, small hotels, country inns and guesthouses.
Meals: A hearty breakfast included. Lunch and dinner not included but always available at accommodation or nearby.
Baggage Transfer: Door-to-door baggage transfer.
Information Pack: Comprehensive Guidebook with maps.
THE SPEYSIDE WAY

Popular Self Guided Itineraries:

We offer 5 excellent itineraries from the direct 5 day route to adding on one, or both spurs. The 17 mile last day from Grantown to Aviemore can be shortened by taking the Strathspey Railway from Boat of Garten to Aviemore saving your legs 6 miles or about two hours of walking.

ITINERARY: WSSSW1

Description: This is the most direct route with 5 moderate days walking. Even the 17 mile last day should not pose to many problems and it can be shortened by taking the train the last 6 miles from Boat of Garten.

Walking Days: 5
Nights: 6
Average Daily Distance: 13 miles
Grade: Easy to Moderate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Arrive Buckie</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Walk to Fochabers</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Walk to Craigallachie</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Walk to Ballindalloch</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Walk to Grantown</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Walk to Boat of Garten</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Walk to Aviemore</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Onward Travel</td>
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Total Distance 65

ITINERARY: WSSSW2

Description: This itinerary splits the last day and includes an overnight stop in Boat of Garten. It is still a direct route and doesn't include any of the spurs.

Walking Days: 6
Nights: 7
Average Daily Distance: 11 miles
Grade: Easy to Moderate

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<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Arrive Buckie</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Walk to Fochabers</td>
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<td>Walk to Aviemore</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Onward Travel</td>
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</table>

Total Distance 65

ITINERARY: WSSSW3 (DUFFTOWN)

Description: Buckie to Aviemore including the Dufftown spur. The famous Glenfiddich Distillery and the splendid countryside are your main reasons for adding the Dufftown spur, which is a circular extension and does not require any transport arrangements.

Walking Days: 6
Nights: 7
Average Daily Distance: 14 miles
Grade: Easy to Moderate

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Arrive Buckie</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Walk to Fochabers</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Onward Travel</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Distance 77

Day Route Miles
1 Arrive Buckie 0
2 Walk to Fochabers 10
3 Walk to Craigallachie 13
4 Walk to Grantown 13
5 Walk to Boat of Garten 11
6 Walk to Aviemore 6
7 Onward Travel

Total Distance 65
**ITINERARY: WSSSW4 (TOMINTOUL)**

**Description:** Buckie to Aviemore including the Tomintoul spur. This extension lets you sample more rugged walking and enjoy splendid Cairngorm views. Included is a return transfer back to Ballindalloch for you to continue your walk to Grantown.

**Walking Days:** 6  
**Nights:** 7  
**Average Daily Distance:** 13 miles  
**Grade:** Easy to Moderate

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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Walk to Craigallachie</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Walk to Ballindalloch</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Walk to Tomintoul (Taxi to Ballindalloch)</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>then walk to Grantown</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Walk to Aviemore</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Onward Travel</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Distance</strong></td>
<td><strong>80</strong></td>
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**ITINERARY: WSSSW5 (BOTH SPURS)**

**Description:** This itinerary includes the Dufftown and the Tomintoul spurs. With 7 full days of walking and with the route passing many of Scotland’s finest distilleries this is a fantastic itinerary.

**Walking Days:** 7  
**Nights:** 8  
**Average Daily Distance:** 13 miles  
**Grade:** Easy to Moderate

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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Walk to Craigallachie</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Walk the Dufftown Spur/Overnight Craigallachie</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Walk to Ballindalloch</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Walk to Tomintoul (Taxi to Ballindalloch)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>then walk to Grantown</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Walk to Aviemore</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Distance</strong></td>
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**Navigation**

This walk is graded easy to moderate. Most walkers can expect to average about 2 miles per hour so you can quickly work out how long you can expect to walk each day. The route is a mixture of paths, tracks and minor roads. The route is well waymarked.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Walking Direction**

Due to baggage transfer restrictions we can only offer this walk from the east coast at Buckie to Aviemore.

**Additional Nights**

Many of our clients choose to add extra nights along the walk to sample more of the wonderful walking and attractions available on The Speyside Way. Recommended places for additional nights include Grantown and Aviemore.

**Fewer Nights**

If you wish to reduce the number of nights we can tailor your trip to your requirements.

**HOLIDAY INFORMATION**

**Accommodation**

One of the highlights of this tour is the high standard of the accommodation. We specifically choose the hotels, inns, guesthouses and B&B’s to ensure that you enjoy every minute of your stay. They all offer a warm welcome to walkers, traditional hospitality and delicious local food.

**Single Rooms**

This independent walking holiday is available to solo walkers but we have to charge a single room supplement and a bag supplement to cover the costs we incur.

**Meals**

A hearty breakfast is included each morning. Lunch and dinner are not included so you are free to choose from the available options. Most of your accommodations will more than happy to provide a packed lunch on request and this can be booked on arrival. Dinner is available either at your accommodation or nearby pubs or restaurants.
Baggage Transfer
Your bags will be transferred from your accommodation as per your itinerary and moved onto your next overnight accommodation. We ask you to limit your luggage to one bag of up to 15kg per person.

Equipment
Your information pack has a detailed equipment list which includes standard walking gear such as good walking boots or shoes, warm and waterproof clothes and a day pack.

Dogs
Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate walkers with dogs as many of the accommodation providers do not accept pets.

Recommended Reading
Walking in Scotland - Lonely Planet
Scotland: The Story of a Nation - Magnus Magnusson

TRAVEL INFORMATION
Getting to Buckie and from Aviemore

Air
Aberdeen and Inverness both have airports which are convenient for the Speyside Way. Use one of the following modes of transport listed below to get you to the start and finish of the walk.

Road
Buckie is approximately 60 miles and a one hour drive from both Inverness and Aberdeen. Aviemore is 30 miles south of Inverness and 120 miles north of Edinburgh on the A9.

Rail
If travelling via Inverness, a change of train to Keith (2 hours) and then a bus (35 mins) to Buckie is required.
If travelling via Aberdeen a change of train to Keith (1 hour 30 mins) and then a bus (35 mins) to Buckie is required.
From Aviemore to Inverness is 30 mins and to Edinburgh is 1 hour 30 mins.

Travel Insurance
We strongly recommend taking out travel insurance to cover cancellation or curtailment of your holiday.

M.A.C.S. RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL
Minimise Impact & Maximise Benefit
Our operating policies, office policies, holidays and tours are all designed to minimise impact and maximise benefit to the environment and local communities.

Action & Advocacy
We believe that by engaging our team and clients in environmental and community projects we can make a real difference.

Carbon & Communities
Travel and our business activity does of course contribute to carbon output and climate change. We have put several policies in place to minimise our carbon footprint.

Sensitive & Sustainable
Macs Adventure has worked hard to ensure that our holidays are sensitive to the community you are visiting and sustainable over the long term.

CUSTOMER REVIEWS
We are justifiably proud of our reputation for outstanding holidays on the Speyside Way. You can read numerous customer reviews on our website to get a good idea of what to expect from Macs Adventure on the Speyside Way.

PRICE & AVAILABILITY
Availability
This walking holiday is best enjoyed between March and October. You can start on any date that suits your travel plans and you will find up to date availability on our website. The Speyside Way is very popular so it is best to book as far in advance as you are able to.

Price
Detailed up to date prices for all our Speyside Way Holidays are available on our website here...

Included
- Hand picked bed and breakfast accommodation in ensuite rooms wherever possible.
- Door to door baggage transfer.
- A detailed info pack and guidebook with map for the group leader.
- Emergency telephone support from our office in the event of a problem.

Excluded
- Travel to the start or from the finish of the walk.
- Lunches, dinners, snacks and drinks.
- Travel Insurance.
- Personal Equipment.
- Taxi transfers or public transport should you need to skip a stage.
HOW TO BOOK

Once you have read all the information in this factsheet or on our website and decided on your preferred itinerary, visit our website or give us a call to confirm availability. You can then book by any of the following methods:

Book Securely Online: www.macsadventure.com
Telephone: +44 (0) 141 530 8886
Fax/Post: Download or request a booking form and post it to Macs Adventure, 44 Speirs Wharf, Glasgow, G4 9TH, UK or fax it to +44 (0) 845 527 5688

Please don’t hesitate to contact us by phone on +44 (0) 0141 530 8886 or email: info@macsadventure.com if you have any queries and one of our expert customer service team will be happy to help.

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE

Financial Security

In accordance with “The Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992” all passengers booking with Macs Adventure Ltd are fully protected for the initial deposit and subsequently the balance of all monies paid to us, including repatriation if required (this insurance will not cover repatriation to the country of origin for the passengers outside of the EU), arising from cancellation or curtailment of your travel arrangements due to the insolvency of Macs Adventure Ltd.

ABTA Member Statement

Macs Adventure Holidays is a Member of ABTA. ABTA and ABTA Members help holidaymakers to get the most from their travel and assist when things don’t go according to plan. We are obliged to maintain a high standard of service to you by ABTA’s Code of Conduct. For more information on ABTA, the Code of Conduct and the arbitration scheme available to you if you have a complaint, contact ABTA, 30 Park Street, London SE1 9EQ, tel 020 3117 0581 www.abta.com

Activity Scotland Code of Conduct

Macs Adventure is a member of the Activity Scotland Association, the trade association which supports and promotes activity providers in Scotland. Macs Adventure abides by the Activity Scotland Code of Practice, which ensures that your activities are safely and professionally organised, comply with the law and are financially protected.